

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/937,563

Examiner

Greg F. Cunningham

Applicant(s)

KITSUTAKA, SHIGERU

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment received 3/16/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,4-8,19,22-26,37,40-44 and 55-60.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 2-6-02, 10-18-01
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to amendment filed 3/16/2006.
2. The disposition of the claims is as follows: claims 1, 4-8, 19, 22-26, 37, 40-44 and 55-60 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 19 and 37 are independent claims. Claims 2-3, 9-18, 20-21, 27-36, 38-39 and 45-54 were previously cancelled.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. In view of amended and cancelled claims and review of cited references and search for prior art, 103 rejections are withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1, 4-8, 19, 22-26, 37, 40-44, and 55-60 are allowed.
5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicant's amended independent claims 1, 19 and 37 stand novel over the related prior art. For instance, while the combination of related art of Bollman (US 5,218,350), Udea (US 4,935,879) and GT Interactive, (3D Realms, and Torus Games Ship 'Duke Nukem' For The Game Boy Color) i.e. Game Boy, do make use of an index number setting section which sets image information of an original image as an index number in a lookup table for index color texture-mapping, the index color texture-mapping being texture-mapping which maps a texture onto a virtual object while referring to the lookup table, the index number being set to each texel

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of the texture in a texture space, and the texture linking to image information to be texture-mapped; and

a drawing section which transforms the image information of the original image by performing index color texture-mapping on the virtual object by using the lookup table in which the image information of the original image is set as the index number, the virtual object being a polygon having a size equal to a size of a display screen or a size of a block obtained by dividing a display screen into blocks”.

However, they do not disclose the virtual object constituting polygons having a size equal to a size of a block obtained by dividing a screen into blocks, wherein the index number setting section sets the index number corresponding to the image information of the original image for each of the blocks, which are specified by dividing the display screen, and the drawing section performs the index color texture-mapping on each of the polygons for each of the corresponding divided blocks as claimed in part by independent claims 1, 19 and 37.

Therefore as claimed by the combined elements of amended independent claim 1, 19, and 37, the cited references and prior art of record lack separately and in combination the elements of amended claims.

Claims (4-8, 55 and 58), (22-26, 56 and 59) and (40-44, 57 and 60) depend from allowed independent claims 1, 19 and 37, respectively, and therefore are also allowed.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Responses

7. Responses to this action should be mailed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231. If applicant desires to fax a response, (703) 872-9306 may be used for formal communications.

Inquiries

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gregory F. Cunningham whose telephone number is (571) 272-7784.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kee Tung can be reached on (571) 272-7794. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is **571-273-8300**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Kee M. Tung
Primary Examiner



Greg Cunningham

Examiner

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5/17/2006